

Docket No. 53481US009
(formerly 53481USA1B.009)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Wayne K. DUNSHEE et al.)
Serial No.: 09/577,551)
Confirmation No.: Unknown)
Filed: 24 May 2000)
For: ABRASION-RESISTANT INK COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE

Group Art Unit: 1714
Examiner: P. D. Niland

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PATENT
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 3 December 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 14 and 15, and amend claims 11, 12, 16, 17, 22, 34, 37, 39, and 43. The amended claims are provided below in clean form. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, amended claims are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate changes made (for convenience, all pending claims, including those added hereby, are provided in Appendix A).

Sub C1
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11. (AMENDED) A method for improving durability of an image on an elastomeric substrate comprising the step of:

coating an imagewise layer of a urethane polymer-containing ink composition onto an elastomeric substrate wherein the urethane polymer comprises a number average molecular weight in the noncross-linked form of about 1,500 to about 50,000.